The development objective of the project is to support adoption of a new national strategy for urban poverty reduction at the Centre and the States, based on informed debate, local/international experience and research findings on the causes and potential responses to urban poverty. The project would support a combination of initiatives like research and network building for dialogue on policies and regulations and a facility to support community associations and NGOs for actual ground level work through two distinct but mutually reinforcing components, *viz.*, National Component and NCR Component. Identification of the NGOs in the project in respect of NCR component is under process.

(c) to (e) The GOI-UNDP project provides for pilot initiatives involving NGOs under the NCR component of the project. In the selection of NGOs for the NCR component, preference would be given to NGOs which have prior experience in Delhi.

Seepage in Government Quarters

1311. SHRI JANESHWAR MISHRA: Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the rain caused seepage in Type-III and Type-IV quarters in Laxmi Bai Nagar, New Delhi last year;

(b) if so, whether a contractor was awarded the work of plugging the seepage/leakage in the said quarters;

(c) if so, the extent of work done by the contractor;

(d) whether quality of work has been ensured before making payment to the contractor; and

(e) by when the remaining complaints regarding seepage/leakage would be attended to?

THE MINISTER OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD) : (a) to (c) Yes, Sir. Central Public Works Department (CPWD) has reported that there was seepage in 63 quarters in Laxmi

Bai Nagar area in the rainy season last year and a contract was awarded for plugging the seepage/leakage in these quarters.

The repair of roof seepage was completed in these quarters by the month of March, 2004.

(d) and (e) The work has been executed as per the CPWD specifications.

Drinking water supply in Bangalore

1312. DR. VIJAY MALLYA: Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the State Government of Karnataka had written to the then Prime Minister regarding augmenting the present supply of drinking water by an additional 540 MLD to the Bangalore city under the Cauvery Water Supply Scheme;

(b) whether the proposal has been examined by the Central Government; and

(c) what is Government's reaction thereto and by when the approval is expected?

THE MINISTER OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) Government of Karnataka had separately submitted a project proposal on Cauvery Water Supply Scheme Stage-IV, Phase-II at an estimated cost of Rs. 3381.80 crore to this Ministry for obtaining loan assistance from Japan Bank for International Cooperation (JBIC). The proposal envisages to augment additional 500 mld (million litres per day) of water supply to Bangalore city. The proposal has been examined and recommended to Department of Economic Affairs, which has posed it to Government of Japan for JBIC loan assistance under financial year 2004-05 loan package. No definite time for loan approval by JBIC can be indicated at present.